

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 23. Cancelled.

¹
24. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing halogen-containing silanes of the general formula (I):



where

R is a substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₁₀ alkyl or C₆₋₁₀ aryl radical of which one or more carbon atoms are optionally replaced by -CO-, -CO₂-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NH- or -NR'-, where R' is a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms,

X is fluorine, chlorine or bromine,

a is an integer of [[0,]] 1, 2 or 3,

b is an integer of 0, 1, 2 or 3, and

c is an integer of 1, 2, or 3 [[or 4]],

with the proviso that the sum of a + b + c = 4,

comprising reacting silicon, under the action of microwave energy, with elements or compounds selected from the group consisting of [[halogens;]] halogens and organohalogen compounds; ~~halogens and hydrogen, halogens and hydrogen halides, organohalogen compounds; organohalogen compounds and hydrogen, organohalogen compounds and hydrogen halide; hydrogen halides, fluorosilanes and hydrogen, fluorosilanes and hydrogen halide; hydrogen-containing chlorosilanes and hydrogen, hydrogen-containing chlorosilanes and hydrogen halides; organohalosilanes and hydrogen, organohalosilanes and hydrogen halides;~~ and hydrocarbons and hydrogen halides.

²
~~25~~. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 24, wherein silicon is contacted with ~~halogen, a halogen, an organohalogen compound, or mixture thereof~~ in gaseous form and exposed to microwave energy.

³
~~26~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~24~~¹, wherein crystalline silicon is used.

⁴
~~27~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~24~~¹, wherein coarsely crystalline silicon is used.

⁵
~~28~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~24~~¹, wherein amorphous silicon is used.

⁶
~~29~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~28~~⁵, wherein amorphous silicon is used in admixture with crystalline silicon.

⁷
~~30~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~24~~¹, further comprising employing a catalyst or promoter.

⁸
~~31~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~24~~¹, further comprising employing a substance which absorbs microwave energy and transfers thermal energy to silicon.

~~32~~. (Cancelled).

⁹
~~33~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~24~~¹, further comprising employing a metal or metal compound as a catalyst or promoter.

¹⁰
~~34~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ~~33~~⁹, wherein said promoter comprises Cu.

¹¹
~~25~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹~~24~~, wherein nonpulsed microwave energy is used.

¹²
~~26~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹~~24~~, wherein said silicon has a mean particle size of $> 70 \mu\text{m}$.

¹³
~~27~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹~~24~~, wherein said organohalogen compound comprises an alkyl halide or aryl halide.

¹⁴
~~28~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹~~24~~, wherein said organohalogen compound comprises methyl chloride.

¹⁵
~~29~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹~~24~~, wherein silicon is employed in the form of a silicon alloy.

¹⁶
~~30~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹⁵~~29~~, wherein said silicon alloy is ferrosilicon.

41. - 51. (Cancelled)

¹⁷
~~52~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹~~24~~, wherein elemental silicon and one or more organohalogen compounds are contacted under microwave excitation with hydrogen, hydrogen halide, or hydrogen and hydrogen halide.

¹⁸
~~53~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹~~24~~, wherein the hydrocarbon is methane or ethane.

54. (Cancelled).

¹⁹
~~58~~. (Previously Presented) The process of claim ¹~~24~~, wherein the
silicon is free of catalysts.